Bill as Introduced

HB 620-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2019 SESSION

19-0682 01/05

HOUSE BILL

620-FN

AN ACT

relative to the penalty fee structure for late premium tax payments.

SPONSORS:

Rep. Hunt, Ches. 11

COMMITTEE:

Commerce and Consumer Affairs

ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a graduated fee schedule for payment of the insurance premium tax.

This bill is a request of the insurance department.

Explanation:

Matter added to current law appears in bold italics.

Matter removed from current law appears [in brackete and struckthrough.]

Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Nineteen

AN ACT

relative to the penalty fee structure for late premium tax payments.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

- 1 Premium Tax; Collection, Minimum, Penalty, and Prepayments. Amend RSA 400-A:32, IV to read as follows:
- IV. Any insurer failing to file the report required by RSA 400-A:31 or failing to remit the proper tax within the time for filing shall pay a penalty [equal to 10] contingent upon the number of days that have passed since the due date. For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 3 percent [en] of the amount of the tax due. For late payments received 31-60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12 percent of the amount of tax due. If the tax or the estimated tax is not paid when due, the commissioner may suspend or revoke the insurer's certificate of authority.
 - 2 Insurance Department; Administrative Fund. Amend RSA 400-A:39, XI to read as follows:
- XI. Any insurer that does not pay amounts due under this section within 45 days of the billing date shall incur a late payment penalty [equal to 10 percent of the amount assessed. In addition, the sum total of the assessment and penalty shall accrue with interest, from the 45th day until the date of payment, at a rate of 0.050 percent per day compounded daily] contingent upon the number of days that have passed since the due date. For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 3 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received 31-60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12 percent of the amount of tax due.
- 3 Foreign Insurance Companies; Annual Statements; Tax. Amend RSA 405:29, II to read as follows:
- II. Any producer failing to file the report or failing to remit the proper tax within the time period for filing shall pay a penalty [equal to 10] contingent upon the number of days that have passed since the due date. For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 3 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received 31-60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12 percent of the amount of tax due.
- 4 Risk Retention Act; Risk Retention Groups Not Chartered in This State. Amend RSA 405-31 A:3, III(a) to read as follows:

HB 620-FN - AS INTRODUCED - Page 2 -

- (a) Each risk retention group shall be liable for the payment of premium taxes and taxes on premiums of direct business for risks resident or located within this state, and shall report to the commissioner the net premiums written for risks resident or located within this state. Such risk retention group shall be subject to taxation, and any applicable fines and penalties related thereto, on the same basis as a foreign admitted insurer. A risk retention group failing to remit the proper tax within the time period for filing shall pay a penalty contingent upon the number of days that have passed since the due date. For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 3 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received 31-60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12 percent of the amount of tax due.
 - 5 Unauthorized Insurance Premium Tax. Amend RSA 406-B:11, I to read as follows:
- I. Except as to premiums on lawfully procured surplus lines insurance pursuant to the surplus lines laws of this state, and premiums on unlicensed insurance procured by industrial insurers on which a tax has been paid pursuant to RSA 406-B:16, VI and premiums on independently procured insurance on which a tax has been paid pursuant to RSA 406-B:17, every unauthorized insurer shall pay to the commissioner before March 1 next succeeding the calendar year in which the insurance was so effectuated, continued or renewed a premium receipts tax of 4 percent of gross premiums charged for such insurance other than marine insurance and a premium receipts tax of 2 percent of gross premiums charged for such marine insurance on subjects resident. located or to be performed in this state. Such insurance on subjects resident, located or to be performed in this state procured through negotiations or an application, in whole or in part occurring or made within or from within or outside of this state, or for which premiums in whole or in part are remitted directly or indirectly from within or outside of this state, shall be deemed to be insurance procured, or continued or renewed in this state. The term "premium" includes all premiums, membership fees, assessments, dues, and any other consideration for insurance. Such tax shall be in lieu of all taxes and fire department dues. On default of any such unauthorized insurer in the payment of such tax the insured shall pay the tax. If the tax prescribed by this section is not paid within the time stated, the tax shall be increased by a penalty [of-25 percent and by the amount of an additional penalty computed at the rate of one percent per month or any part thereof from the date such payment was due to the date paid. contingent upon the number of days that have passed since the due date. For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 3 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received 31-60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12 percent of the amount of tax due.
 - 6 Unauthorized Insurance Premium Tax. Amend RSA 406-B:16, VI(b) to read as follows:
 - (b) Any insured failing to file the report or failing to remit the proper tax within the

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HB 620-FN - AS INTRODUCED - Page 3 -

- time period for filing shall pay a penalty [equal to 10] contingent upon the number of days that
 have passed since the due date. For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date,
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 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For
 late payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12
 percent of the amount of tax due.
 - 7 Independently Procured Insurance. Amend RSA 406-B:17, V to read as follows:
 - V. If the insured fails to withhold from the premiums the amount of tax herein levied, the insured shall be liable for the amount thereof and shall pay the same to the commissioner within the time stated in paragraph III. If the tax prescribed by this section is not paid within the time stated in paragraph III, the tax shall be increased by a penalty [of 25 percent and by the amount of an additional penalty computed at the rate of one percent per month or any part thereof from the date such payment was due to the date paid] contingent upon the number of days that have passed since the due date. For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 3 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received 31-60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received greater than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12 percent of the amount of tax due.
- 19 8 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2020.

HB 620-FN- FISCAL NOTE AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT

relative to the penalty fee structure for late premium tax payments.

FISCAL IMPACT:

[X] State

[] County

[] Local

J None

	Estimated Increase / (Decrease)					
STATE:	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023		
Appropriation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
Revenue	(\$139,560)	(\$139,560)	(\$139,560)	(\$139,560)		
Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
Funding Source:	[X] General [] Education [] Highway [X]	Other -		

METHODOLOGY:

This bill establishes a graduated penalty schedule for late payments on taxes and payments to the administration fund collected by the Insurance Department. The Department computed an annual average of penalties collected over the past five years under current law. The Department then calculated what the penalties would have been under the proposed graduated penalties of 3% for 1-30 days past due, 6% for 31-60 days, and 12% for balances past due for more than 60 days. Based on a comparison of current law and the proposed law, the Department determined the average annual penalty revenue would decrease by \$139,560.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Insurance Department

HB 620-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2019 SESSION

19-0682 01/05

HOUSE BILL

620-FN

AN ACT

relative to the penalty fee structure for late premium tax payments.

SPONSORS:

Rep. Hunt, Ches. 11

COMMITTEE:

Commerce and Consumer Affairs

19-1 CONSENT

SENATE CommERCE

ANALYSIS

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19-0682 01/05

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Nineteen

AN ACT

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Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 Premium Tax; Collection, Minimum, Penalty, and Prepayments. Amend RSA 400-A:32, IV to read as follows:

IV. Any insurer failing to file the report required by RSA 400-A:31 or failing to remit the proper tax within the time for filing shall pay a penalty [equal to 10] contingent upon the number of days that have passed since the due date. For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 3 percent [en] of the amount of the tax due. For late payments received 31-60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12 percent of the amount of tax due. If the tax or the estimated tax is not paid when due, the commissioner may suspend or revoke the insurer's certificate of authority.

2 Insurance Department; Administrative Fund. Amend RSA 400-A:39, XI to read as follows:

XI. Any insurer that does not pay amounts due under this section within 45 days of the billing date shall incur a late payment penalty [equal to 10 percent of the amount assessed. In addition, the sum total of the assessment and penalty shall accrue with interest, from the 45th day until the date of payment, at a rate of 0.050 percent per day compounded daily] contingent upon the number of days that have passed since the due date. For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 3 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received 31-60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12 percent of the amount of tax due.

3 Foreign Insurance Companies; Annual Statements; Tax. Amend RSA 405:29, II to read as follows:

II. Any producer failing to file the report or failing to remit the proper tax within the time period for filing shall pay a penalty [equal to 10] contingent upon the number of days that have passed since the due date. For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 3 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received 31-60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12 percent of the amount of tax due.

4 Risk Retention Act; Risk Retention Groups Not Chartered in This State. Amend RSA 405-A:3, III(a) to read as follows:

HB 620-FN - AS INTRODUCED - Page 2 -

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 - 5 Unauthorized Insurance Premium Tax. Amend RSA 406-B:11, I to read as follows:
- I. Except as to premiums on lawfully procured surplus lines insurance pursuant to the surplus lines laws of this state, and premiums on unlicensed insurance procured by industrial insurers on which a tax has been paid pursuant to RSA 406-B:16, VI and premiums on independently procured insurance on which a tax has been paid pursuant to RSA 406-B:17, every unauthorized insurer shall pay to the commissioner before March 1 next succeeding the calendar year in which the insurance was so effectuated, continued or renewed a premium receipts tax of 4 percent of gross premiums charged for such insurance other than marine insurance and a premium receipts tax of 2 percent of gross premiums charged for such marine insurance on subjects resident, located or to be performed in this state. Such insurance on subjects resident, located or to be performed in this state procured through negotiations or an application, in whole or in part occurring or made within or from within or outside of this state, or for which premiums in whole or in part are remitted directly or indirectly from within or outside of this state, shall be deemed to be insurance procured, or continued or renewed in this state. The term "premium" includes all premiums, membership fees, assessments, dues, and any other consideration for insurance. Such tax shall be in lieu of all taxes and fire department dues. On default of any such unauthorized insurer in the payment of such tax the insured shall pay the tax. If the tax prescribed by this section is not paid within the time stated, the tax shall be increased by a penalty [of 25 percent and by the amount of an additional penalty computed at the rate of one percent per month or any part thereof from the date such payment was due to the date-paid. contingent upon the number of days that have passed since the due date. For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 3 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received 31-60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12 percent of the amount of tax due.
 - 6 Unauthorized Insurance Premium Tax. Amend RSA 406-B:16, VI(b) to read as follows:
 - (b) Any insured failing to file the report or failing to remit the proper tax within the

HB 620-FN - AS INTRODUCED - Page 3 -

- 1 time period for filing shall pay a penalty [equal to 10] contingent upon the number of days that
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- 3 the penalty fee shall be 3 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received 31-60
- 4 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For
- 5 late payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12
- 6 percent of the amount of tax due.

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- 7 Independently Procured Insurance. Amend RSA 406-B:17, V to read as follows:
- 8 V. If the insured fails to withhold from the premiums the amount of tax herein levied, the
- 9 insured shall be liable for the amount thereof and shall pay the same to the commissioner within
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- stated in paragraph III, the tax shall be increased by a penalty [of 25 percent and by the amount of
- 12 an additional penalty-computed at the rate of one percent-per-month-or-any-part thereof from the
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- 14 passed since the due date. For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date, the
- penalty fee shall be 3 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received 31-60
- 16 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For
- 17 late payments received greater than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12
- 18 percent of the amount of tax due.
 - 8 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2020.

HB 620-FN- FISCAL NOTE AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT

relative to the penalty fee structure for late premium tax payments.

FISCAL IMPACT:

[X] State

[] County

[] Local

[] None

	Estimated Increase / (Decrease)					
STATE:	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023		
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Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$0	. \$0		
Funding Source:	[X] General [] Education] Highway [X] (ther -		

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This bill establishes a graduated penalty schedule for late payments on taxes and payments to the administration fund collected by the Insurance Department. The Department computed an annual average of penalties collected over the past five years under current law. The Department then calculated what the penalties would have been under the proposed graduated penalties of 3% for 1-30 days past due, 6% for 31-60 days, and 12% for balances past due for more than 60 days. Based on a comparison of current law and the proposed law, the Department determined the average annual penalty revenue would decrease by \$139,560.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

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HB 620-FN - FINAL VERSION

6Jun2019... 2371-EBA

2019 SESSION

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Commerce and Consumer Affairs

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Nineteen

AN ACT

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HB 620-FN - FINAL VERSION - Page 2 -

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HB 620-FN - FINAL VERSION - Page 3 -

(b) Any insured failing to file the report or failing to remit the proper tax within the time period for filing shall pay a penalty [equal to 10] contingent upon the number of days that have passed since the due date. For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 3 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received 31-60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12 percent of the amount of tax due.

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8 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2020.

HB 620-FN- FISCAL NOTE AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT

relative to the penalty fee structure for late premium tax payments.

FISCAL IMPACT:

[X] State

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[] Local

] None

Γ	Estimated Increase / (Decrease)					
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Appropriation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
Revenue	(\$139,560)	(\$139,560)	(\$139,560)	(\$139,560)		
Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0		
Funding Source:	[X]General [] Education [Highway [X]	Other - 1.		

METHODOLOGY:

This bill establishes a graduated penalty schedule for late payments on taxes and payments to the administration fund collected by the Insurance Department. The Department computed an annual average of penalties collected over the past five years under current law. The Department then calculated what the penalties would have been under the proposed graduated penalties of 3% for 1-30 days past due, 6% for 31-60 days, and 12% for balances past due for more than 60 days. Based on a comparison of current law and the proposed law, the Department determined the average annual penalty revenue would decrease by \$139,560.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Insurance Department

CHAPTER 179 HB 620-FN - FINAL VERSION

6Jun2019... 2371-EBA

2019 SESSION

19-0682 01/05

HOUSE BILL

620-FN

AN ACT

relative to the penalty fee structure for late premium tax payments.

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Rep. Hunt, Ches. 11

COMMITTEE:

Commerce and Consumer Affairs

ANALYSIS

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In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Nineteen

AN ACT

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 - 179:2 Insurance Department; Administrative Fund. Amend RSA 400-A:39, XI to read as follows:
 - XI. Any insurer that does not pay amounts due under this section within 45 days of the billing date shall incur a late payment penalty [equal to 10 percent of the amount assessed. In addition, the sum total of the assessment and penalty shall accrue with interest, from the 45th day until the date of payment, at a rate of 0.050 percent per day compounded daily] contingent upon the number of days that have passed since the due date. For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 3 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received 31-60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12 percent of the amount of tax due.
 - 179:3 Foreign Insurance Companies; Annual Statements; Tax. Amend RSA 405:29, II to read as follows:
 - II. Any producer failing to file the report or failing to remit the proper tax within the time period for filing shall pay a penalty [equal to 10] contingent upon the number of days that have passed since the due date. For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 3 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received 31-60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12 percent of the amount of tax due.

CHAPTER 179 HB 620-FN - FINAL VERSION - Page 2 -

179:4 Risk Retention Act; Risk Retention Groups Not Chartered in This State. Amend RSA 405-A:3, III(a) to read as follows:

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35 36 (a) Each risk retention group shall be liable for the payment of premium taxes and taxes on premiums of direct business for risks resident or located within this state, and shall report to the commissioner the net premiums written for risks resident or located within this state. Such risk retention group shall be subject to taxation, and any applicable fines and penalties related thereto, on the same basis as a foreign admitted insurer. A risk retention group failing to remit the proper tax within the time period for filing shall pay a penalty contingent upon the number of days that have passed since the due date. For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 3 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received 31-60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12 percent of the amount of tax due.

179:5 Unauthorized Insurance Premium Tax. Amend RSA 406-B:11, I to read as follows:

I. Except as to premiums on lawfully procured surplus lines insurance pursuant to the surplus lines laws of this state, and premiums on unlicensed insurance procured by industrial insurers on which a tax has been paid pursuant to RSA 406-B:16, VI and premiums on independently procured insurance on which a tax has been paid pursuant to RSA 406-B:17, every unauthorized insurer shall pay to the commissioner before March 1 next succeeding the calendar year in which the insurance was so effectuated, continued or renewed a premium receipts tax of 4 percent of gross premiums charged for such insurance other than marine insurance and a premium receipts tax of 2 percent of gross premiums charged for such marine insurance on subjects resident, located or to be performed in this state. Such insurance on subjects resident, located or to be performed in this state procured through negotiations or an application, in whole or in part occurring or made within or from within or outside of this state, or for which premiums in whole or in part are remitted directly or indirectly from within or outside of this state, shall be deemed to be insurance procured, or continued or renewed in this state. The term "premium" includes all premiums, membership fees, assessments, dues, and any other consideration for insurance. Such tax shall be in lieu of all taxes and fire department dues. On default of any such unauthorized insurer in the payment of such tax the insured shall pay the tax. If the tax prescribed by this section is not paid within the time stated, the tax shall be increased by a penalty [of 25 percent and by the amount of an additional penalty computed at the rate of one percent per month or any part thereof from the date such payment was due to the date paid.] contingent upon the number of days that have passed since the due date. For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 3 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received 31-60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For late

CHAPTER 179 HB 620-FN - FINAL VERSION - Page 3 -

payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12 percent of the amount of tax due.

179:6 Unauthorized Insurance Premium Tax. Amend RSA 406-B:16, VI(b) to read as follows:

(b) Any insured failing to file the report or failing to remit the proper tax within the time period for filing shall pay a penalty [equal to 10] contingent upon the number of days that have passed since the due date. For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 3 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received 31-60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12 percent of the amount of tax due.

179:7 Independently Procured Insurance. Amend RSA 406-B:17, V to read as follows:

V. If the insured fails to withhold from the premiums the amount of tax herein levied, the insured shall be liable for the amount thereof and shall pay the same to the commissioner within the time stated in paragraph III. If the tax prescribed by this section is not paid within the time stated in paragraph III, the tax shall be increased by a penalty [of 25 percent and by the amount of an additional penalty computed at the rate of one percent per month or any part thereof from the date such payment was due to the date paid] contingent upon the number of days that have passed since the due date. For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 3 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received 31-60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12 percent of the amount of tax due.

179:8 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2020.

Approved: July 10, 2019

Effective Date: January 01, 2020

Committee Minutes

AMENDED SENATE CALENDAR NOTICE Commerce

Sen Kevin Cavanaugh, Chair Sen Jon Morgan, Vice Chair Sen Donna Soucy, Member Sen Chuck Morse, Member Sen Harold French, Member

Date: April 17, 2019

HEARINGS

	Tuesday	04/23/2019		
	(Day)	(Date)		
Commerce	· }	SH 100 1:00 p.m.		
(Name of C	Committee)	(Place) (Time)		
1:00 p.m.	HB 664-FN	relative to vehicle repair standards.		
1:15 p.m.	HB 670-FN	relative to the cost of prescription drugs.		
1:30 p.m.	HB 450	relative to examinations conducted by the banking department.		
1:45 p.m.	HB 620-FN	relative to the penalty fee structure for late premium tax payment		
2:00 p.m.	HB 598	establishing a commission to study beer, wine, and liquor tourism.		
2:15 p.m.	HB 348	relative to procedures for condominiums with 25 or fewer residentia units.		

Sponsors:

HB 664-FN

Rep. Williams Rep. Packard

Rep. McBeath Sen. Bradley

Rep. Goley Sen. Birdsell

Rep. Green Sen. Watters

HB 670-FN

Rep. Butler

Rep. Marsh

Rep. Knirk

Sen. Sherman

HB 450 Rep. Luneau HB 620-FN Rep. Hunt HB 598

Rep. Williams

HB 348 Rep. Almy

Sen. Birdsell

Laura Bryant 271-1403

Kevin Cavanaugh Chairman

Senate Commerce Committee

Laura Bryant 271-1403

HB 620-FN, relative to the penalty fee structure for late premium tax payments.

Hearing Date:

April 23, 2019

Time Opened:

2:39 p.m.

Time Closed:

2:50 p.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Cavanaugh, Morgan, Soucy, Morse

and French

Members of the Committee Absent: None

Bill Analysis: This bill establishes a graduated fee schedule for payment of the insurance premium tax.

This bill is a request of the insurance department.

Sponsors:

Rep. Hunt

Who supports the bill: Rep. Hunt, Rep. Potucek, Lindsay Nadeau with NH Association of Domestic Insurance Companies, Norma Stalling and John Elias with NHID

Who opposes the bill: None

Who is neutral on the bill: None

Summary of testimony presented:

Rep. Jim Hunt, Cheshire 11:

- Rep. Hunt stated that this bill simplifies the penalty fee in the circumstance where insurers pay their premium taxes late.
- He said that the department hopes to encourage more timely payments of the premium tax by establishing a graduated fee schedule instead of the current fees that can vary widely.

Lindsay Nadeau with NHADIC:

- She advocated for the bill to go one step further to align with other states who allow the insurance commissioner to have discretion when handing out penalties.
- She gave an example where there was a snowstorm and a company was late,

and ended up with a \$90,000 fine.

• She said she appreciated the gradual approach in the bill but would like to see discretion given to the commissioner.

Norma Stalling and John Elias with NHID:

- Elias explained that there are different levels of premium tax depending on the business you write. He said there is a one time filing period where the total amount of the premium tax is due.
- Elias said whether a company is 1 hour late or 100 days late filing the fee is typically about 10% of the total premium tax amount. Therefore, the department wanted to rewrite this because there is a lot of administrative work and costs trying to keep up with the fines.
- He said depending on the size of these penalties, they will likely become
 premium which is his fear, and in turn the costs will be placed on the policy
 holders, he said a gradual fee schedule will help remedy this issue.

Senator Morse asked John Elias if he had any comments in regard to the suggestion that Lindsay Nadeau gave.

• Elias said that the concern he has with the commissioner using their discretion is possible lack of consistency in application, because everyone that is late will have a good excuse, but to gauge accuracy across all companies would be difficult.

LHB
Date Hearing Report completed: April 24, 2019

Speakers

Senate Commerce Committee

SIGN-IN SHEET, Public Hearing HB 620-FN

Date:

4/23/19

Time: 1:45 p.m

Name/Representing (please print neatly)					
REP JOHN PETUEK Rockle V REP JOHN PETUEK Rockle V Lindsay Nadeau Domestic Insurance Companies	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
VREP JOHN PETUEEK ROCKLE	Sugar	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	$\sim N_{\odot}$
V Lindowy Nadeau - NH Association of	Support M	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
J Companies	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support 🔲	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	N ₀
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	N₀ □

Senate Commerce Committee

SIGN-IN SHEET, Public Hearing HB 620-FN

Date:

4/23/19

Time: 1:45 p.m

	Name/Representing (please print neatly)					
ノ	Norma Stalling Ins. Dep	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
V	John Elias The Dept	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	_N ₀
		Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No □
		Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
		Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
		Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No □
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		Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No □
		Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No

Testimony



Insurance Department

April 23, 2019

House Bill 620-FN Penalty fee structure

The following New Hampshire RSAs have provisions to assess penalties for late payment of premium taxes or the administrative assessment:

NH RSAs	Payer
§400-A:32, IV. Premium Tax; Collections, Minimum, Penalty, and Prepayment,	Licensed Insurance companies
§405:29, II. Foreign Insurance Companies; Annual Statements; Tax,	Licensed Producers with Surplus Lines authority
§405-A:3, III(a). Risk Retention Act; Risk Retention Groups not chartered in this state,	Registered Risk Retention Groups
§406-B:11, I. Unauthorized Insurance Premium Tax,	Unauthorized Insurance companies
§406-B:16, VI(b) Unauthorized Insurance, Lawfully Procured Insurance in Unlicensed Companies,	Insured
§406-B:17,V Unauthorized Insurance, Independently Procured Insurance, and	Insured
§400-A:39, XI Administrative Assessment Fund.	Licensed Insurance companies

- Currently, the penalties range from flat rates of 10% to 25% applied to tax balance past due,
- a flat rate of 10% plus daily interest of 0.050 compounded daily for the assessment balance past due.



April 23, 2019

Insurance Department

The proposed amendments would change the penalties to a tiered schedule.

- 3% of the balance past due for 1-30 days,
- 6% of the balance past due for 31 to 60 days, and
- 12% of the balance past due for 61 or more days.

The change would allow for a consistent calculation of the late penalty and relate to the timeliness of payment of the balance past due.

Amend RSA 400-A:32,IV. Any insurer failing to file the report required by RSA 400-A:31 or failing to remit the proper tax within the time for filing shall pay a penalty equal to 10 percent contingent upon the number of days that have passed since the due date.

For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 3 percent [on] of the amount of the tax due.

For late payments received 31-60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 6 percent of the amount of tax due.

For late payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12 percent of the amount of tax due.

	FY 2018	· FY 2017	FY 2016	FY 2015	FY 2014	
	CY 2017	CY 2016	CY 2015	CY 2014	CY 2013	5 year average
Licensed Companies				•	•	•
Penalty at 10%	\$133,291.15	\$547,784.20	\$243,360.06	\$69,617.63	\$76,168.48	\$214,044.30
Tiered Penalty						
1 to 30 days late 3%	\$37,452.21	\$169,005.33	\$60,091.02	\$17,058.89	\$13,327.71	\$59,387.03
31 to 60 days late 6%	\$2,998.26	\$2,164.56	\$24,409.20	\$4,537.02	\$15,039.65	\$9,829.74
61+ days late 12%	\$4,142.59	\$5,012.18	\$2,938.39	\$6,230.88	8,000.40	\$5,264.89
Decrease in revenue	\$88,698.09	\$371,602.13	\$155,921.45	\$41,790.84	\$39,800.72	\$139,562.65

MEMORANDUM

On Behalf of the NH Association of Domestic Insurance Companies

Re: HB 620

Before Senate Commerce Committee

Date: 04/23/19

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following summarizes research and recommendation regarding the proposed legislation and our request for language to be included which gives Commissioner Elias discretion in appropriate situations. Such discretion is in keeping with existing NH law (e.g. Department of Revenue Administration), and the insurance laws of other states. We would therefore recommend the addition of the following language in the proposed legislation:

"Notwithstanding the above, the Commissioner may waive, modify or abate all or part of the penalty if the Commissioner determines that the failure to timely file or pay the premium tax was due to reasonable cause and was not intentional or due to willful neglect".

OVERVIEW

The current proposed amendment to RSA 400-A:32, IV states:

IV. Any insurer failing to file the report required by RSA 400-A:31 or failing to remit the proper tax within the time for filing shall pay a penalty [equal to 10] contingent upon the number of days that have passed since the due date. For late payments received 1-30 days after the due date, the penalty fee is 3 percent [on] of the amount of the tax due. For late payments received 31-60 days after the due date, the penalty fee is 6 percent of the amount of tax due. For late payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee is 12 percent of the amount of tax due. If the tax or the estimated tax is not paid when due, the commissioner may suspend or revoke the insurer's certificate of authority.

As currently proposed, this penalty is mandatory without any discretion being given to by the Commissioner. We know from legislative history that the word "intentionally" was removed back in 2002. However, the action was not intended to remove discretion from the Commissioner.

NH Insurance Law

Also, other existing laws in NH provide the Commissioner with broad discretionary authority to interpret and enforce the laws in order to avoid unjust outcomes, to treat taxpayers consistently and only to impose penalties when there is reasonable cause for doing so.

The typical statutory penalty for violation of NH insurance law is loss of license or a fine up to \$2,500, or both.

Other NH Agencies

Other New Hampshire Departments provide the administrative head with similar discretion. For example, the New Hampshire Department of Revenue statute addressing penalties for failure to pay taxes (RSA 21-J:33) states that the "... penalty shall not be applied in any case in which the failure to pay was due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect of the taxpayer". Other state agencies are typically granted similar discretion. So too should the Commissioner of Insurance when dealing with the administrative penalty for paying premium taxes late.

Laws in Other States

It should be noted that in New England states where premium taxes are paid by insurers to the Departments of Insurance (as with New Hampshire), the statutory authority calls for Commissioner discretion in considering penalties, including tax penalties. Examples of these jurisdictions include Massachusetts, Vermont and Maine. Further, a quick review of some other jurisdictions where premium taxes are paid directly to the Department of Insurance reveals that those states also specifically grant discretion to the Commissioner of Insurance consistent with what we are suggesting. Examples of these states include Maryland and South Carolina. In Rhode where taxes are paid to the Department of Revenue, while the statute implies there is discretion for imposition of penalties for both late filed personal income tax return and employer's withheld tax returns, corresponding language for insurer premium tax returns could not be easily determined without further review. In Connecticut (premium taxes are paid to Department of Revenue), the law also specifically allows the Commissioner to have discretion to waive all or part of the penalties.

In short, every other New England state (except possibly Rhode Island) has a specific provision allowing for the discretion of waiving or modifying the penalties for late payment of premium taxes. New Hampshire would be an outlier with these New England states as well as many other states if it did not allow its Commissioner of Insurance the same discretion relative to late premium taxes. As noted above, New Hampshire does allow for discretion for late penalties for those taxes paid to the Department of Revenue by RSA 21-J:33 (2015). We would submit the same discretion should apply for those taxes paid by insurers to the New Hampshire Department of Insurance.

Specific Statutory References specifically granting discretion for waiving/reducing penalties

I. New England States where taxes are paid to the Department of Insurance

Maine: ME 36 MRSA Section 187-B(7):

"7. Reasonable cause. The assessor shall waive or abate or, in the case of those penalties that do not accrue automatically under subsection 6, refrain from imposing any penalty imposed by subsection 1, 2, 4-A, 4-B, 5-A or 5-B or by the terms of the International Fuel Tax Agreement if grounds

constituting reasonable cause are established by the taxpayer or if the assessor determines that grounds constituting reasonable cause are otherwise apparent. Reasonable cause includes, but is not limited to, the following circumstances:

. . .

E. A return that was due other than monthly was filed and paid less than one month late and all of the taxpayer's returns and payments during the preceding 3 years were timely;"

Massachusetts: G. L. c 62C, Sec (f):

"(f) If it is shown that any failure to file a return or to pay a tax in a timely manner is due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect, any penalty or addition to tax under this section may be waived by the commissioner, or if such penalty or addition to tax has been assessed, it may be abated by the commissioner, in whole or in part."

Vermont: 32 V.S.A. § 3202.

"... unless the taxpayer affirmatively shows that such failure is due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect, then in addition to any interest payable pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the commissioner may assess and the taxpayer shall then pay, a penalty ..."

II. New England states where taxes are paid to Departments of Revenue

Rhode Island: Title 44, Section 44-30-85 {note – personal and employer's withheld tax return}:

- "a) Failure to file tax returns or to pay tax. In the case of failure:
 - (1) To file the Rhode Island personal income tax return or the employer's withheld tax return on or before the prescribed date, unless it is shown that the failure is due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect, an addition to tax shall be made equal to five percent (5%) of the tax required to be reported if the failure is for not more than one month, with an additional five percent (5%) for each additional month or fraction thereof during which the failure continues, not exceeding twenty-five percent (25%) in the aggregate ..."

Connecticut: CT Gen Stat § 12-206 (2012)

"(c) Subject to the provisions of section 12-3a, the commissioner may waive all or part of the penalties provided under this chapter when it is proven to his satisfaction that the failure to pay any tax was due to reasonable cause and was not intentional or due to neglect."

{Section 12-3(a) creates a "Penalty Review Committee"}

New Hampshire: NH Rev Stat § 21-J:33 (2015) - personal taxes paid to Department of revenue.

"This penalty shall not be applied in any case in which the failure to pay was due to reasonable cause and not willful neglect of the taxpayer."

III. Sampling of non-New England states where premium taxes paid to Departments of Insurance:

<u>Maryland</u> - Title 6, Section 6-108 grants the Commissioner discretion: " (2) The Commissioner may waive the penalty and interest on late payments under this subsection if the insurer proves that it:

- (i) made a good faith effort to comply with the requirements of § 2-113 of this article; and
- (ii) exercised due diligence to initiate payment correctly and on a timely basis.

South Carolina - SC Code § 38-7-150 (2012)

"The director or his designee may, upon making a record of his reasons therefor, waive or reduce any of the penalties or interest imposed under the provisions of this title pertaining to fees and taxes."

CONCLUSION

A review of insurance statutory authority in neighboring New England states as well as states where premium taxes are paid directly to the Department of Insurance provides the discretion for the Administrative head to reduce or waive penalties particularly when good cause is shown. Presumably, the statutory schemes provide this discretion for situations where a payment may arrive late due to transmittal delays/glitches or other non-intentional reasons. The reasons for a delay will be readily apparent to the Department and by providing the discretion consistent with other states (as well as other NH Administrative agencies), the NH Insurance Department will continue to be able to statutorily assess penalties for late premium taxes where appropriate but also, be in a position to review and assess legitimate reasons for such a delay. The proposed language gives the sole discretion to the Commissioner to make the determination if the delay was due to reasonable cause and would not create a situation where penalties assessed would result in hearings on the reasons for the delay.

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HB.620-FN

relative to the penalty fee structure for late premium tax payments

Good afternoon Commerce Committee members,

I am introducing HB 620-FN at the request of the Insurance Department. This bill will simplify the penalty fee for insurers when they pay their premium taxes late. Currently, such penalties vary widely, depending on the type of insurer or the RSA under which the premium tax is filed, and then require computation of different penalty percentages accordingly. The Insurance Department hopes to encourage more timely payments of the premium taxes due by establishing a graduated fee schedule, where the fine starts small and increases the later the filing gets. In addition, a simplified penalty fee will serve to foster more efficient operations in the Department by simplifying the calculation of penalty fees.

We have some folks here from the Department to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for your consideration of HB 620-FN.

Voting Sheets

Senate Commerce Committee

EXECUTIVE SESSION RECORD 2019-2020 Session

	Bill#
Hearing date:	
Executive Session date:	
Motion of:	Vote: 5-5
Committee Member Made by	Second Yes No
Sen. Cavanaugh,	
Sen. Morgan, V- Chair	
Sen. French	
Sen. Morse	
Sen. Soucy	
Motion of:	Vote:
Committee Member Made by	Second Yes No
Sen. Cavanaugh, Chair	
Sen. Morgan, V-Chair	
SenFrench	
Sen. Morse	
Sen. Soucy	
Motion of:	Vote:
Committee Member Made by	Second Yes No
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Sen. Morgan, V- Chair	
Sen. French	
Sen. Morse	
Sen. Soucy	
Reported out by:	

Committee Report

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SENATE

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 23, 2019

THE COMMITTEE ON Commerce

to which was referred HB 620-FN

AN ACT

relative to the penalty fee structure for late premium tax payments.

Having considered the same, the committee recommends that the Bill

OUGHT TO PASS

BY A VOTE OF: 5-0

Senator Kevin Cavanaugh For the Committee

Laura Bryant 271-1403

 $\frac{\textbf{COMMERCE}}{\textbf{HB 620-FN}, \ \text{relative to the penalty fee structure for late premium tax payments}.}$ Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0. Senator Kevin Cavanaugh for the committee.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SENATE

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 14, 2019

THE COMMITTEE ON Finance

to which was referred HB 620-FN

AN ACT

relative to the penalty fee structure for late premium tax payments.

Having considered the same, the committee recommends that the Bill

OUGHT TO PASS

BY A VOTE OF: 6-0

Senator Bob Giuda For the Committee

Deb Martone 271-4980

General Court of New Hampshire - Bill Status System

Docket of HB620

Docket Abbreviations

Bill Title: relative to the penalty fee structure for late premium tax payments.

Official Docket of HB620.:

Date	Body	Description
1/16/2019	Н	Introduced 01/03/2019 and referred to Commerce and Consumer Affairs HJ 3 P. 22
1/30/2019	н	Public Hearing: 02/07/2019 01:30 pm LOB 302
2/6/2019	н	Subcommittee Work Session: 02/13/2019 10:00 am LOB 302
2/7/2019	н	Executive Session: 02/13/2019 02:00 pm LOB 302
2/20/2019	Н	Committee Report: Ought to Pass for 02/27/2019 (Vote 19-1; CC) HC 13 P. 4
2/27/2019	н	Ought to Pass: MA VV 02/27/2019 HJ 6 P. 5
2/27/2019	Н	Referred to Ways and Means 02/27/2019 HJ 6 P. 5
3/6/2019	н `	==TIME CHANGE== Public Hearing: 03/14/2019 09:30 am LOB 202-204
3/13/2019	. н	Full Committee Work Session: 03/18/2019 01:00 pm LOB 202
3/19/2019	Н	Executive Session: 03/27/2019 10:00 am LOB 202
3/28/2019	Н	Committee Report: Ought to Pass for 04/04/2019 (Vote 20-0; CC) HC 18 P. 3
4/4/2019	Н	Ought to Pass: MA VV 04/04/2019 HJ 12 P. 3
4/12/2019	S	Introduced 04/11/2019 and Referred to Commerce; SJ 13
4/17/2019	S	Hearing: 04/23/2019, Room 100, SH, 01:45 pm; SC 19
4/23/2019	S	Committee Report: Ought to Pass, 05/02/2019; SC 20
5/2/2019	S	Ought to Pass: MA, VV; Refer to Finance Rule 4-5; 05/02/2019; SJ 15
5/14/2019	S	Committee Report: Ought to Pass, 05/23/2019; SC 23
5/24/2019	S	Special Order to to the present time, Without Objection, MA; 05/23/2019; SJ 17
5/23/2019	S	Ought to Pass: MA, VV; OT3rdg; 05/23/2019; SJ 17
6/5/2019	S	Enrolled Bill Amendment #2019-2371e Adopted, VV, (In recess of 05/30/2019); SJ 19
6/6/2019	н	Enrolled Bill Amendment #2019-2371e: AA VV 06/06/2019 HJ 18 P. 40
6/18/2019	S	Enrolled (In recess 06/13/2019); SJ 21
6/18/2019	H	Enrolled 06/13/2019 HJ 19 P. 18
7/15/2019	Н	Signed by Governor Sununu 07/10/2019; Chapter 179; Eff: 01/01/2020

NH House	NH Senate

Other Referrals

Senate Inventory Checklist for Archives

Bill Number: HB 620-FM	Senate Committee: <u>Commit</u>
	pelow and indicate the documents which have been
included with an "X" beside	
X Final docket found on Bill Status	
Bill Hearing Documents: {Legislative Aides	
Bill version as it came to the committee	•
Hearing Sign-up sheet(s)	
	ner submissions handed in at the public hearing
Hearing Report	
Revised/Amended Fiscal Notes provided	by the Senate Clerk's Office
(x,y) = (x,y) + (y,y) + (y,y	
Committee Action Documents: {Legislative	-
All amendments considered in committee (include	
amendment #	
- amendment #	amendment#
-Executive Session Sheet	•
Committee Report	
Floor Action Documents: {Clerk's Office}	
All floor amendments considered by the body du	ring session (only if they are offered to the senate):
amendment #	
amendment #	amendment#
Post Floor Action: (if applicable) {Clerk's O	fficel
•	ed off by all members. Include any new language proposed
by the committee of conference):	
Enrolled Bill Amendment(s) 2371 E	£ 8 <i>1</i> 1 -
Governor's Veto Message	
All available versions of the bill: {Clerk's O	•
as amended by the senate	as amended by the house
final version	1
Completed Committee Report File Delivere	ed to the Senate Clerk's Office By:
Committee Aide	Date
Senate Clerk's Office <u>AL</u>	

Senate Inventory Checklist for Archives

Bill Number: <u>HB628-FM</u>	Senate Committee: Finance
Please include all documents in the order listed below and indicate the documents which have been included with an "X" beside	
K Final docket found on Bill Status	
Bill Hearing Documents: {Legislative Aides}	
Bill version as it came to the committee	
All Calendar Notices	
Hearing Sign-up sheet(s)	
Prepared testimony, presentations, & other su	bmissions handed in at the public hearing
Hearing Report	
Revised/Amended Fiscal Notes provided by th	e Senate Clerk's Office
Committee Action Documents: {Legislative Aide	<u>s)</u>
All amendments considered in committee (including t	hose not adopted):
amendment # amen	dment #
amendment # amen	dment #
Executive Session Sheet	•
Committee Report	
Floor Action Documents: {Clerk's Office}	
All floor amendments considered by the body during s	ession (only if they are offered to the senate):
amendment # amen	dment #
amendment # amen	
Post Floor Action (if amiliarly) (Clarks Off)	
Post Floor Action: (if applicable) {Clerk's Office}	
by the committee of conference):	by all members. Include any new language proposed
Enrolled Bill Amendment(s)	
Governor's Veto Message	
All available versions of the bill: {Clerk's Office}	•
as amended by the senate	as amended by the house
final version	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
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Enrolled Bill Amendment to HB 620-FN

The Committee on Enrolled Bills to which was referred HB 620-FN

AN ACT

relative to the penalty fee structure for late premium tax payments.

Having considered the same, report the same with the following amendment, and the recommendation that the bill as amended ought to pass.

FOR THE COMMITTEE

Explanation to Enrolled Bill Amendment to HB 620-FN

This enrolled bill amendment makes a grammatical correction.

Enrolled Bill Amendment to HB 620-FN

Amend RSA 406-B:17, V as inserted by section 7 of the bill by replacing line 10 with the following:

late payments received more than 60 days after the due date, the penalty fee shall be 12